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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

Note verbale dated 22 October 2004 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Representative of Greece presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004, concerning measures for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-State actors, and, with reference to the Chairman's letter SCA/10/04(02), dated 21 June 2004, has the honour to submit herewith the first national report of Greece on the implementation of that resolution (see annex).

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Annex to the note verbale dated 22 October 2004 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

UNSCR 1540 NATIONAL REPORT FOR 2004

I. GENERAL OVERVIEW

The proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction emerges today as one of the gravest threats to international peace and stability. The possibility of acquisition of WMD by non-state actors evolves as an alarming scenario, given the fact that proliferation networks may seek to posses those weapons, having thus the capacity to launch large-scale attacks at random. Latest developments indicate the seriousness of the situation and the need to continue addressing the issue.

II. INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

Greece has signed and ratified all international treaties and protocols related to the non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. She is also member of all export control regimes on items related directly or indirectly (dual-use) to the eventual fabrication or production of Weapons of Mass Destruction. In the same context, Greece has ratified all 12 UN Conventions regarding the fight against terrorism. The competent legislative bodies are also considering the effectiveness of all legal instruments in force, with the purpose of introducing additional measures where necessary.

The EU Strategy against the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction adopted during the Greek Presidency of the EU reflects the resolve of the EU countries to confront the challenge of the WMD-threat. The set of priorities described in this text, is pursued in close consultation among partners.

Furthermore, as Greece is a member of the EU, reference is made to the EU Common Report which will be transmitted to the UNSC 1540 Special Committee separately. This EU Report covers areas of EU and Community competences and activities in relation to UNSCR 1540 and should be read in conjunction with this national report.

During the Krakow PSI anniversary meeting, we expressed our support to the political objectives of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), and we continue to work in the domestic field in order to inform all authorities concerned to remain alerted in detecting and tracing potential proliferation activities.

III. DOMESTIC MEASURES

a) General Remarks

Bearing in mind the complexity and the diversity of the proliferation issue and acknowledging the need for effective response in new emerging trends arising from proliferators worldwide, we continue to review our national legislation with the aim of introducing additional legislative measures where necessary. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has already requested other national authorities to give their assessment on whether new or revised legislation is required for the implementation of the 1540 Resolution. Ad hoc consultations are in progress.

b) Specific Issues

With regard to the **Chemical Weapons** the **National Authority for Chemical Weapons** constitutes the institutional body where all relevant matters are considered. The Authority, whose activities are coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, holds annually two sessions with participants from other national agencies (Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, Customs Directorate).

The risk of a terrorist attack during the 2004 Olympic Games proved the necessity of additional security measures at airports, customs installations, port facilities and border check points. The **National Committee of Atomic Energy**, in cooperation with the **Customs Directory** deployed along the aforementioned facilities a network of devices aiming at detecting nuclear, chemical or radiological material and preventing thus perpetrators from using them for a terrorist attack.

c) Legislation in force in relation with UNSCR 1540

Greek legislation on the export of items and technologies related to WMD has been issued accordingly to our commitments to the relevant international treaties and obligations undertaken in the UN and EU framework. Directives issued by other relevant export control regimes are also taken into account.

We have initiated a process of amending national legislation in order to include recent developments. The export, re-export, transit and transshipment licenses are issued by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, in close consultation with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Defense respectively. The latter organized, last year, seminars where practical experiences for export controls among agencies involved were exchanged, as well as information concerning sensitive users, destinations and denials.

Operative paragraph 2 of UNSCR 1540

Action taken

- **L.936/1979 concerning external trade in Greece** is the main Law that attributes responsibility of external trade in the Ministry of Economy and Finance and provides for the penalties in case of violation of the export legislation in general.
- **Ministerial Decision No. E3/1255/06.03.1991** and **Ministerial Decision No. 2641/E3/3327/26.03.1992** concerning control in export of items and technologies which affect the National Security in Greece.
- **Ministerial Decision No. 125695/E3/5695/25.10.2000 "control of dual-use items transfers"** harmonizes Greek legislation with Regulation 1334/2000, of the EU on the same subject. Our country has already adopted the most recent amendment of the Regulation.
- **Ministerial Decision No. 3285/E3/4136/09.06.1993** and **Ministerial Decision No. 2026/E3/933/16.03.1994** concerning controls in transfers of chemical and biological agents, technologies and animal pathogens which are used for the production of chemical weapons. The Decision is in the process of amendment.
- **Ministerial Decision No. 3286/E3/2757/F.MTCR/24.05.1993,** and **Ministerial Decision No. 1055/E3/7269/28.02.1992** and **Ministerial Decision No. 4216/E3/4076/1994** concerning the transfer of Missile Technology. The Decision will be amended.

- **Ministerial Decision No. 5408/E3/2362/F.NSG/31.08.2004** concerning the transfer of nuclear material, equipment and technology which affect the National Defense and Security.
- Several Ministerial Decisions have been issued for the implementation of trade sanctions imposed by the United Nations Organization, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Operative paragraph 10

Action taken

- We assist other states through answering of questionnaires or providing information about our legislation on the relevant questions.
- We contribute to the meetings of the License and Enforcement Officers of the export control regimes.

Athens, 25 October 2004